

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace paragraph [004] on page 2 with the following paragraph:

[004] In our prior U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/307,423, filed 10 May 1999 (now Patent No. 6,209,855, issued April 3, 2001), the invention described involves the concept of gas infusion. The hydrophobic nature of a hydrophobic microporous hollow fibre membrane establishes a stable interface between an aqueous phase on one side of the fibre and a gas phase on the other. This interface remains stable so long as there does not exist a pressure differential between the phases in excess of the 'breakthrough' pressure required to 'push' the aqueous phase through the micropores, or the gas pressure exceeds the liquid pressure to such an extent as to bubble into the liquid phase. This stable interface can be used to transfer mass from one phase to the other. The disclosure of this patent is incorporated herein by reference.